PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

(54) METHOD, SYSTEM, AND SERVER FOR MULTICAST COMMUNICATION
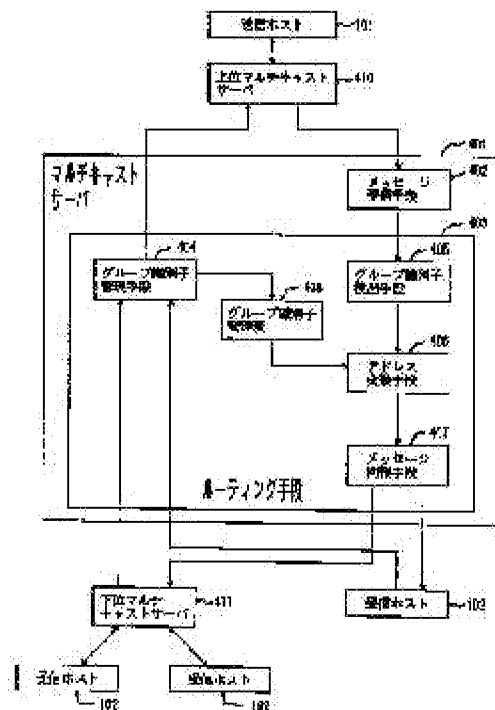
(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To enable hierarchical multicast communications at various levels by sending a message which has a desired group identifier at the same time from a transmitting host to a receiving host which makes a request to receive a message having the group identifier.

SOLUTION: Correspondence relation with the IP addresses of receiving hosts 102 that request the reception of a group identifier and a message having the group identifier and a low-order multicast server 411 is managed in a multicast server 401 by using a group identifier management table 408. A message received from the transmitting host 101 or a high-order multicast server 410 is routed to the receiving hosts 102 and low-order multicast server 411 which have their IP addresses are registered in the group identifier management table 408. Consequently, multicast communications can be made by making good use of the 1:1 communication function of the existent internet.